

to command an immediate hearing for your claims. Do you know that perhaps you are the richest young man in the world today. It is this which, I must confess, at first rather prejudiced me against you."

Edestone laughed good-naturedly. "It is lucky that my photographs were able to speak for me."

"Yes," the Secretary assented. "As you probably have recognized, I am not a scientist, and all your formulæ and explanations were about as so much Greek to me, but those photographs of yours were most convincing, and prove to me how simple are the greatest of discoveries. I fancy," he added slyly, "that they will penetrate even the intelligence of a monarch."

"Ah!" He rubbed his hands together. "I can imagine the chagrin and fury of those war lords when they find themselves so unexpectedly called to time, while your device is held over the nations like a policeman's club, with America as its custodian. What a thought! Universal dominion for our country; Universal Peace!"

Some sense of opposition on the part of his companion aroused him, and he levelled a quick and searching glance at the other.

"That is your intention, is it not, Mr. Edestone?" he demanded. "That, upon the completion of